

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

26 February 1981

Mr. George A Shaughnessy



Dear Sir,

In response to your letter of 19 February, I regret that this office cannot assist your research concerning planning for an invasion of Japan in 1945. The Central Intelligence Agency was established in 1947 and its records do not cover World War II.

Sincerely,



Roberta S. Knapp
Acting Chief,
History Staff

Distribution:
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Shaughnessy

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February 19, 1981

Central Intelligence Agency
Historical Division
McLane, Virginia

Dear Sir:

I am researching for a book concerning the planning for the invasion of Japan which was to have been undertaken starting November 1, 1945. The U.S. Plan was code named Downfall, the Operations on Kyushu Olympic and the proposed operations on Honshu Coronet. I am working now on the intelligence operations of the Pacific War. There are a few spots I wish to cover which have eluded me so far. Perhaps you can help:

A. The Archivist at NARS in Washington with whom I have worked, Charles A. Shaughnessy (no relation), said that there was a conduit through which we passed misinformation on to Japan during the war - through the Spanish Embassy. Could you tell me what information is available on that subject - name of conduit, messages sent, means of transmission and an evaluation of the operation?

B. I have a photo copy of the Deception Plan for Downfall called Pastel which was recently declassified by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. One part of the plan calls for dropping certain material for deceptive purposes. One of the items mentioned is Bunson Burners. I haven't been able to figure that out at all - is it a code name for something or is it indeed a real bunson burner? I can't imagine why we would drop a real bunson burner unless it was to thoroughly confuse and baffle the Japanese as it has me 35 years later! Can you shed any light on that?

(continued)

Central Intelligence Agency

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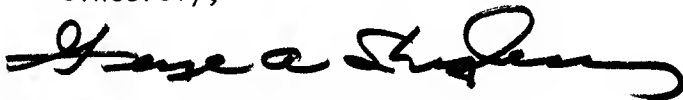
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C. Intelligence operations in the European Theatre of Operations are pretty well documented. Such is not the case with the Pacific War. Other than information about the Magic intercepts and coastal watchers, little is known about our operations in Japan. Can you point me to any material about resident agents in Japan on our side, or Japanese operations in the U.S.A.? (For instance, I left San Francisco early in May for Hollandia and then to the 4th Replacement Depot on Leyte. It has been said that "Tokyo Rose" mentioned our departure shortly afterward.)

I hope you will be able to steer me to material on the Pacific War. I expect to be in Washington in May or June and would like to plan research time for this part of the book.

I shall appreciate hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George A. Shaughnessy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

George A. Shaughnessy

George Shaughnessy

Central Intelligence Agency
Historical Division
McLane, Virginia

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